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**Fossil plants.**—PELOURDE<sup>3</sup> has contributed the first published volume to the "Bibliothèque de paléontologie," which in turn is one of the 40 divisions of the "Encyclopédie scientifique" under the general direction of TOULOUSE. Under Paleontology, 15 volumes are projected, 3 of which are to be on Paleobotany. The two others will deal with gymnosperms and angiosperms.

The present volume is a compact summary of our knowledge of fossil cryptogams, all but 22 pages being given to pteridophytes. The completeness of the summary may be judged by the fact that the bibliography includes 256 titles.—J. M. C.

**Identification of trees.**—In order to meet the demands of teachers for a serviceable key for the identification of trees in their winter condition, the authors of *Trees in winter* have reprinted that portion of the volume containing the keys to genera and species.<sup>4</sup> As indicated in the review of the original volume,<sup>5</sup> these keys are based upon the bud, leaf-scar, twig, and occasionally upon the fruit characters. It is anticipated that the convenience of the key in a separate form will be appreciated as an important addition to the equipment for the winter study of our tree flora.—GEO. D. FULLER.

## NOTES FOR STUDENTS

**Self-sterility.**—CORRENS<sup>6</sup> has recently made the phenomena of self-sterility in plants the basis for a searching genetic investigation. After some preliminary experimentation, *Cardamine pratensis* was selected as the material best suited to his purpose, especially as some light had already been thrown upon self-sterility in this species by the investigations of JOST and HILDEBRAND. CORRENS began his study with two specimens of *Cardamine pratensis*, which though derived from the same source (Munster Botanic Gardens) differed markedly in many characters, and were both self-sterile. These two plants (for convenience labeled *B* and *G*) were crossed reciprocally. The offspring, 60 in number, were tested out individually for self-sterility by pollinations (1) from the parents, (2) on the parents, and (3) from sisters. The results are given in such great detail and with such a large amount of easily followed tabular data, that no critic of modern genetic experimental work can criticize the evidence presented on the ground that the details are not all given, or that

<sup>3</sup> PELOURDE, FERNAND, Paléontologie végétale (Cryptogames cellulaires et vasculaires). 16mo. pp. xxviii+360. figs. 80. Paris: Octave Doin et Fils. Fr. 5.

<sup>4</sup> BLAKESLEE, A. F., and JARVIS, C. D., The identification of trees. Key to genera and species from "Trees in winter." 8vo. pp. 16. New York: Macmillan & Co. 1913. 30 cts. For sale only by the authors, Storrs, Conn.

<sup>5</sup> BOT. GAZ. 56:79. 1913.

<sup>6</sup> CORRENS, C., Selbststerilität und Individualstoffe. Biol. Centralbl. 33:389-423. pls. I-II. 1913.